

## Practical Application of Education

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the hoe and the hammer, and are headed for the town to become clerks, doctors, lawyers and legislators.

Now, it is not in my mind to condemn this view of education or to oppose it; but I do urge that we enlarge our views to include that other idea, that education has for its aim a preparation for a life of comfort and honor in every walk of life. It is to furnish our youth with culture of mind and heart that will make them noble men and women, and with the necessary skill of hand that will make home a place of refinement and health, and the shop a place of intelligent and remunerative industry. It is to make all industry of cultivated life honorable, to encourage every young man and woman to seek and to occupy the largest place of usefulness to which he is by nature adapted, to avoid none as if it were menial, and to make home life the center to which art, science and wealth make their final and choicest contribution.

It is not only that education should prepare for a better living, but it should teach what a better living is. Next to living, the greatest problem of life is, what is good living? And the greatest obstacle to a good system of education lies in the misconception of society respecting the kind of a living that is most worthy of our seeking. No one can object that man's first effort is for bread for himself and his children; and until this demand is satisfied it is useless to interest him in anything else. But having bread, he should learn that the delights of life do not increase with the accumulations of bread in the forms of money and bonds. Our schools and our learned men have also to learn what the proper service of education is, and what the final end of its acquisitions in use. Explorers and searchers for things new, whether it be for new continents, new laws of science, or new philosophies of life, are great contributors, and deserve great honor, but these do not rank highest. They are but the forerunners of those who apply thing new to the better living of the people; those who colonize the new worlds and establish governments of freedom of the oppressed; those who utilize science for the improvement of social conditions to make more people happier and better, and who multiply happy homes with happy children.

## TWO FATAL FADS

By MISS JESSIE LEWELLYN,  
Daughter of Ex-Governor Lewellyn, of Kansas.

Two present-day fads, one of literature and another belonging to the artistic world, are being appropriated, or misappropriated, by the growing class of "Failures" who vaguely espouse "Art."

The Rubaiyat of Omar Khayyam, though old to literateurs, is still read with wonder by the "Would-Bes." Quite as fatal to those of little knowledge—proverbially dangerous—is Mr. Denslow's picture, entitled "What's the Use?" which represents a death's head resting upon a book, and crowned with laurel.

Both Mr. Fitzgerald's translation of the Rubaiyat and Mr. Denslow's picture were undoubtedly intended for thinking men and women who are not to be unsettled and overbalanced by a large idea. But so completely have the sentiments of this book and this drawing been monopolized by pseudo-pessimists, industrial derelicts and self-styled "Bohemians" that conservative people have almost ceased to quote and admire.

It has become the fashion for notable suicides to affect Omar Khayyam—for there are fashions and modes of suicide as prevailing as those of dress. Jumping from high buildings and from the decks of steamers are obsolete methods, superseded by five grains of morphine and a pocket edition of the Rubaiyat.

"A book of verses underneath the bough, a jug of wine, etc.," never helped to buy the necessities or to get a job for a man. A recent suicide found dead in Lincoln park, Chicago, with these verses in his pocket as an excuse for his act, is only another proof that such sentiments are better ones to die by than to live with. Mr. Fitzgerald's Rubaiyat is poetry, AND LIFE ISN'T ALL POETRY, as those who take the trouble to find out well know. INCOMPLETEMENTS SHOULD STICK TO PROSE, or, if they must imbibe the Persian poets, they should, after taking, digest a few paragraphs of Emerson's Essay on Self Reliance, as an antidote.

For those who are ever seeking self-excuse for failure, there never was a more fatal sentiment than "What's the Use?" It is the cry of defeat from the unstable and the indolent, who are content to assert themselves "unappreciated geniuses," without working to win recognition. It is heard most often among the class of men who habitually sit around small tables in darkened cafes and "expand" over tall steins while their work goes undone. The "What's the Use" state of fix (to borrow an expression of Jerry Simpson) is the last stage of the "Good Fellow" before he settles down for life as a confirmed "Sponger." IN WOMEN IT IS ABSOLUTELY FATAL. The mentally lazy find great solace in it, and to the Might-Have-Beens it is the Balm of Gilead. Invariably it precedes failure.

Jessie Lewellyn

## A CURIOUS POINT RAISED.

City Men Seldom Know How They Reach Their Offices Each Morning.

"Most men are not as cute as they look," observed a lady clerk in the patent office to a Washington Star reporter, "and I am almost convinced that some of them are actually wanting in some respects. I refer to their powers of observation. Now, I don't suppose there is one woman out of a hundred who, upon arriving at an office in the morning, could tell how she got there, that is, if she walked, name the streets she took and even remember if she met any friends on her way, and if they were ladies how they were dressed. If she took a car she could tell which streets she took to reach the car, on what side of the street she walked and on what side of the car she rode. I had supposed until the past few weeks that men could remember, and did remember these little things, as well as women, but I find I was mistaken. I recently made a test in the office, and of the seventeen men to whom I spoke and who walk to the office, not one of them could tell me with any positiveness what streets he had walked on that morning in coming to the office. All of them explained that their custom was to come by certain streets, though they frequently changed their course, but they never took any notice as to what streets they used, unless something unusual attracted their attention. Another strange thing in this connection is that more than half of them distinctly remembered how they got home the afternoon before, that is, told the exact streets they traversed. I tried the same experiment in the land office and found that they were as lacking in the matter of observance as the men in the patent office. I have spoken to some friends, who, at my request, have made similar inquiries in other offices and departments, and they found as I did that not more than one per cent. of the men ever exercised the powers of observation in this respect, or could remember except in a general way really how they reached their office in the morning. Of 18 ladies in the office of the adjutant general, 16 not only could remember the streets they walked on, but 11 also remembered all the lady friends they met on their way to the office and how they were dressed. A lady clerk in the same office also accurately described the hat worn by each lady of these eighteen. Of seven gentlemen clerks who tried to remember the kind of hats their fellow male clerks wore, not one of them could describe any hat except his own."

## DELICACY OF SMELL.

Almost Twice as Great in Average Man Than in Woman.

Very careful experiments have lately been made to test the delicacy of the sense of smell in human beings. A series of solutions of five different substances was prepared, each series being so arranged that every solution was of half the strength of the preceding one. These series were extended by successive dilutions till it was impossible to detect the odors. The order of the bottles containing these solutions was completely disarranged, and the test consisted in the attempt to classify them by the sense of smell alone. An equal number of male and female observers were selected from the best apothecaries' shops, and each was required to arrange the bottles. The males were able to detect the smell of the nitrate of amyl in the solution of one part to 783,000 of water, and the females were able to detect it in the solution of one part to 311,000 of water. The oil of wintergreen was detected in about the same proportion and to the same extent of dilution. There was, therefore, a very great preponderance in favor of the males as to the sensitiveness and discrimination of the sense of smell. This is certainly an astounding fact!—Gentleman's Magazine.

## Curious Wedding Gift.

A very ingenious wedding present has been received by a French bride from one of her relatives who is a geographer. The present is a silver sugar bowl in the design of a terrestrial globe, the upper hemisphere forming the cover. The map of the earth has been elaborately engraved on the outside, and the route taken by the newly-wedded pair is indicated by a line of lapis-lazuli, the names of the town at which a stay was made being inserted in enamel.

## Curious Coincidence.

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